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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 265998

71-62
ORIGIN CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 /022 R

DRAFTED BY CU/ARTS:ICARSTONES:SM
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CU/ARTS:BNSTEPHENS
USIA/IEU:MHOFFMAN (SUBSTANCE)
EUR/SOV:WKUSHLIS (SUBSTANCE)
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CU/EE:WPRYCE
---------- 082089
O 102354Z NOV 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: ADS DECON 12/10/75

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES:CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS (CU/ARTS): SOFT ROCK GROUP "AMERICA"

REF: A) MOSCOW 14946, B) MOSCOW 14366; C) MOSCOW 13358

1. BUTROVA WITH DEPT OFFICERS ATTENDED NOVEMBER SEVEN "AMERICA" CONCERT IN DOROTHY CHANDLER PAVILION AT LOS ANGELES. BUTROVA UNWILLING MAKE FINAL DECISION ON GROUP BUT PROMISED THAT IT WOULD COME ON FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER WHICH DEPT INSISTED UPON.

2. APPROXIMATELY TWO HOUR BENEFIT CONCERT PRESENTED BEFORE THIRTY FIVE HUNDRED YOUNG FANS, AVERAGE AGE EARLY TWENTIES. RECEPTION WARMLY ENTHUSIASTIC AND CONTAINED EXCEPT FOR OUT-BURST FROM ONE OR TWO YOUNG PEOPLE JUST BEHIND BUTROVA AND DEPT OFFICERS. OUTBURST LATER BROUGHT UP BY BUTROVA
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TO DEPT OFFICER WHO CONCEDED QUOTE MISBEHAVIOR END QUOTE

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COMMENTING THIS MINOR FLAW IN EVENING PERFORMANCE NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF TOTAL ATTENDANCE.

3. BUTROVA MET AND TALKED WITH GROUP AT SMALL POST-CONCERT RECEPTION. BELIEVE SHE WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY MEMBERS ' APPEARANCE AND BEHAVIOR.

4. ASIDE FROM TAKING NOTE ON SIZE OF GROUP, BUTROVA ELICITED NO REACTION TO SHOW EXCEPT TO INDICATE SHE WOULD HAVE LIKED KOVALEV TO SEE GROUP IN PERFORMANCE WHICH NOT POSSIBLE. DID ALLOW MAYBE SHE QUOTE TOO CONSERVATIVE END QUOTE TO JUDGE, EXPRESSED DEGREE OF SATISFACTION THAT GOSK HAD ACCEPTED GROUP IN PRINCIPLE BASIS RECORDS AND VTR. FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT WOULD APPEAR BUTROVA'S NON-DECISION REFLECTS HER UNWILLINGNESS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR POTENTIALLY CONTROVERSIAL GROUP. WILL KEEP EMB ADVISED OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. KISSINGER

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